

DECLARES SOVIETS CANNOT BE TRUSTED

British Concern Fails to Obtain the Return of Its Property.

NO CONTRACT POSSIBLE

Communist Party Controls Moscow Soviet and May Annul Any Agreement.

RESTRICTED BY UNIONS

Krassine Is Notified Company Prefers to Remain Claimant for Damages.

By the Associated Press.
LONDON, Oct. 12.—The board of directors of the Russia Asiatic Consolidated, Ltd., announced to-day that the chairman of the company, Leslie Urquhart, after five months negotiations, has failed to reach an agreement with the Moscow Government for the return of the company's property and working capital in the form of a concession.

Mr. Urquhart declares that so long as the Communist party controls the Soviet Government, the Third International, the Cheka (the Extraordinary Soviet Commission) and the professional unions any agreement with the Soviet may be rendered inoperative.

Accompanying the announcement was a copy of a letter which Mr. Urquhart had sent to Leonid Krassine, Soviet Minister of Trade and Commerce, explaining the impossibility of any dealings with the Soviet authorities and informing him that the company preferred to remain claimants against Russia for damages caused by the Soviet through unlawful appropriation of properties and working capital.

In his report Mr. Urquhart says he was continuously engaged for three weeks at Moscow with a technical and economic commission appointed by the Soviet and that the draft of a concession agreement was prepared, but one of the clauses was impossible to agree on, as it was a stipulation by the Soviet that the contract must be made with the professional workers' union.

"All kinds of controls and provisions are made whereby liberty of action and the decision of a concessionaire are restricted by the professional unions," continues Mr. Urquhart. "As a result there can be no finality to an agreement with a workman, even after the terms of his contract are absolutely fulfilled. The All Russian Council of Professional Unions, supported by the Cheka, is simply a political instrument for forcing on Russian workers the extreme principles of international communism through the Government's mechanism."

"Instead of permitting a worker and employer to come together to settle their differences amicably, as in the past, the contract with the All Russian Council is intended to keep the employers and workers apart and, by placing the workers' interests in the hands of the extremist members of the communist party, who are at the head of the organization, perpetuates the present estrangement not only on industry and enterprise but on the whole working and proletarian population of Russia."

PLAN TO NEUTRALIZE ALANDS.

GENEVA, Oct. 12.—The International Conference for the neutralization of the Aland Islands, to-day adopted a proposition put forward by Professor Simon Akenazy, the Polish delegate, providing that Great Britain, France and Italy—these three Powers not possessing territory bordering on the Baltic Sea—should work out a compromise plan for the settlement of the question.

Collins Says Irish Still Hold Up British Empire

LONDON, Oct. 12.—Michael Collins, head of the Irish Republican army and Sinn Fein Minister of Finance, in an interview published in the *Herald* (labor organ) is quoted as saying he disliked London and wanted to get out of it as soon as he could. Replying to an inquiry as to whether he was an optimist he said: "Yes, I am an optimist. A man would need to be an optimist to hold up the British Empire. That is what we have done and we may have to do it again. It needs faith like that of the Apostles."

NEW FRONTIER LINE DRAWN FOR SILESIA

Continued from First Page.

The solution involves a new frontier line together with certain measures providing for guarantees against the displacement of existing economic conditions.

The text of the decision will be published simultaneously at Paris, London, Rome and Geneva as soon as notified to the Berlin and Warsaw Governments. A courier left for Paris to-night, carrying the document to M. Briand, President of the Supreme Council.

A statement issued by the league to-night says that the committee reached the conclusion that a frontier drawn either in accordance with the plebiscite or economic conditions, without other stipulation, was bound to have unfortunate results.

The committee accordingly recommended a new frontier, together with a guarantee against the displacement of existing economic conditions extending over a period long enough to permit the region to adjust itself as completely and effectively as possible to the new economic situation. The committee also requested experts to study general measures, the application of which would assure continuity of the economic life of Upper Silesia and reduce to a minimum the difficulties during the period of change.

The economic stipulations formulated by the experts provided for the application over a fixed period, in some cases extending to fifteen years, of a series of arrangements respecting railroads and water and electric supplies, as well as the supervision of custom dues on numerous articles, including wine and coal, and the maintenance of the German mark as legal currency in the regions ceded to Poland.

The council recommends the adoption of these plans, together with that of a guarantee relative to political minorities, believing the latter to be an essential complement to the establishment of a political frontier.

The statement concludes: "It is in this manner only that it is possible to give the largest satisfaction to the political aspirations of the inhabitants and insure at the same time the economic prosperity of the country."

At the close of the session of the council Viscount Ishill, the president, said: "The council has happily reached the solution of one of the most difficult and complex questions; it has fulfilled successfully, I am firmly convinced, one of the most important missions with which it will ever be charged."

"It is a decisive hour in the life of the League of Nations. The solution we have reached cannot fail to contribute in large measure to the maintenance of the peace of Europe and the world."

M'GILL TO CONFER DEGREES.

MONTREAL, Oct. 12.—McGill University to-morrow will confer honorary degrees at its centennial celebration. Among the recipients of the degree of doctor of laws will be Prof. Gordon Laing, University of Chicago; Prof. William Scott Ferguson of Harvard; Dr. R. Tait McKenzie of Philadelphia; Dr. Albert Casey Wood of Chicago, and Prof. James E. Le Rossignol of the University of Nebraska. Mr. John Grier Hibben, president of Princeton University, also will receive the degree of doctor of laws.

ABDICATION DENIED OF KING ALEXANDER

Long Stay in Paris Laid to a Girl and to Communist Plots.

SUCCESSION A PROBLEM

Supporters of Prince George Advance His Right to Immediate Accession.

Special Cable to THE NEW YORK HERALD. Copyright, 1921, by THE NEW YORK HERALD. New York Herald Bureau, Paris, Oct. 12.

Sensational reports appearing in several Paris newspapers this morning that King Alexander of Serbia had decided to abdicate in favor of his elder brother, George, who renounced the throne, met with a prompt denial at the Serbian Legation here, as well as by Premier Pachitch, who came here to discuss with the King the question of his coronation.

It was stated that Alexander intended to return to Belgrade during the present month, despite the fact that many rumors are current here that he is enamored with Paris life after his war experiences, and also with a young French woman who would not be acceptable as Queen of the Jugo-Slavs. It is likewise said that this friendship of some time standing has been broken off.

It is known that not only George, but his sister, Helene, favor an abdication, which would give the throne to the Grand Duke Cyril.

By the Associated Press.

VIENNA, Oct. 12.—A serious situation has arisen in Serbia over the question of the succession to the throne in the event of Alexander's death. According to information in well informed quarters here it is this that is causing Alexander's delay in assuming his kingly office, and keeping him in Paris. It is understood that Alexander insists upon his right to name his successor, while a strong group, largely militaristic, has rallied around Prince George.

A graver problem is said to underlie the situation. Radical supporters of Prince George are even advancing his right to immediate accession to the throne, as the elder heir, and threaten serious consequences should Alexander return. Another cause of King Alexander's delay in Paris is reported to be the discovery of many Communist plots to assassinate him should he attempt to return, with the intention later of establishing a republic.

FRENCH SAY GERMANY IS GETTING TOO MUCH

Call Decision as Disastrous as Giving Entire Region.

Special Cable to THE NEW YORK HERALD. Copyright, 1921, by THE NEW YORK HERALD. New York Herald Bureau, Paris, Oct. 12.

While the decision of the council of the League of Nations on the frontier settlement in Upper Silesia will reach Premier Briand, as president of the allied Supreme Council, to-morrow, it is not likely that the details of the recommendations will be published before the end of the week, in order to allow the various allied military contingents to take steps to prevent any disorders in the congested industrial area there.

All indications point to Poland receiving Tarnowitz and the rural areas surrounding Beuthen and the entire districts of Konigschutte and Kattowitz, thus leaving the city of Beuthen and the districts of Gletwitz and Hindenburg to the Germans.

In French official circles such a solution is considered almost as disastrous as giving the entire region to Germany, as by it a large part of the Upper Silesian industrial arsenal is still held under Berlin's control, although subjected to certain control by the league's commission.

OPTIMISM OF IRISH WANING AT LONDON

Breakdown Doesn't Seem Near, Although Serious Snags Are Seen Ahead.

REPORT ON TRUCE TO-DAY

Violations by Both Sides Are Said to Be Recorded in Committee's Return.

Special Cable to THE NEW YORK HERALD. Copyright, 1921, by THE NEW YORK HERALD. New York Herald Bureau, London, Oct. 12.

The conference of experts over the violations of the Irish truce proceeded so smoothly to-day that they will make a full report to the full conference when it convenes to-morrow.

About Irish headquarters here to-night, however, there is no such cheerful attitude of affairs as has been manifested there hitherto, but there is no indication that they are contemplating anything like a breakdown in the negotiations.

The procedure for to-morrow still remains unsettled. There are certain elements in both camps believing it wise to come immediately to the most controversial questions, and if a breakthrough comes to it come quickly. The respective heads, which probably will prove the controlling factors, are, however, against such methods. They believe in feeling out the details of the final, elemental questions, in the belief that if the details are once straightened out, an agreement will be possible under the broad, all embracing formula under which the conference was called—to "find, if possible, how Ireland can be associated with the community of nations known as the British Empire."

Dodging Dangerous Terms.

Both sides deprecate reference to this in any other terms than those in which it is couched. Such terms, for instance, as dominion home rule and sovereignty are effectively banished from the discussions. The formula, in fact, amalgamates in its terms two ideas hitherto essentially repugnant—namely, Irish nationhood and the British Empire. It was authoritatively said by both sides that each believes this formula holds the salvation both seek, and each will do everything to prevent the wreck of the negotiations so long as they proceed on these lines.

It is hence deduced that the first business of the conference is likely to be an analysis of Mr. Lloyd George's six points which were submitted to Eamon de Valera, Sinn Fein leader, and which Mr. de Valera and the Dail Eireann, or Irish Republican Parliament, rejected.

The discussion will try to find how these six points can be made amenable to both elements of the conference formula—Irish nationhood and the British Empire. If once the conference is able to do that the final terms in which the settlement will be couched are recognized as a relatively easy task. It may involve an appeal to the Irish people for a new mandate to the Sinn Fein Government—a mandate which will permit them to give up explicit republicanism in return for an amply guaranteed nationhood.

Indication of Success.

The successful handling to-day of such a delicate matter as truce violations, in which partitions of either side say the other side alone is guilty, presages well for a satisfactory solution of labor problems.

By the Associated Press.
LONDON, Oct. 12.—It was agreed among the delegates at the conference to-day, it was understood, that breaches of the truce have arisen on both sides. Dublin Castle having produced a list of such occurrences, which was compared with a list published by the Irish bulletin of breaches by auxiliaries, the police and the military.

The Irish representatives, while expressing anxiety for accord regarding the truce, expressed disfavor of any extension of the original terms of the truce signed at General Headquarters in Dublin. It is understood that they are unwilling to bind themselves to discontinue any activities not covered at that time. Since, however, many of these activities were possible only through the possession of arms, a stricter regard for prohibition against carrying arms by either side would meet all Government requirements.

Actual outbreaks or conflicts with the Crown forces, however, are regarded as less serious than the virtual ousting of the British authorities by the Sinn Fein courts and police, as the Crown forces cannot, without breaking the truce, take active measures against this policy on the part of the Sinn Fein. Under the

terms of the truce the Crown forces must not carry arms, which the British Government alleges the Sinn Feiners do. The question of the release of persons in internment camps has not yet been reached, and probably the Irish delegates will not mention it for the present. The invitation to Ulster to send representatives to attend the current sessions likewise is awaiting a more opportune moment.

The appointment to-day of Lionel Curtis as one of the chief secretaries on the Government side was taken to indicate that the Government approach toward a settlement will follow the lines indicated by Gen. Jan Christian Smuts. Mr. Curtis, who is considered a great authority on the Imperial federation, took a prominent part in framing the South African Constitution.

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